

Sinking Building Foundations

1058. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government do not possess adequate number of soil test equipments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for the sinking of building foundations in Vasant Kunj in New Delhi; and

(d) the steps taken to check such sinking process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The Central Public Works Department has adequate number of soil testing equipment for soil testing in Delhi, however, the DDA does not have soil testing equipment. The work of soil testing being specialised nature is assigned to expert agencies well equipped with the soil test equipments as well as soil testing laboratory to analyse the samples of soils etc.

(c) Standard soil tests were got conducted in Pocket IV Sector 'C' Vasant Kunj also where subsidence of soil underneath the two blocks had taken place, however, these soil tests had not shown any cavity/tunnel underneath the ground. The subsidence in this pocket seems to be due to cavity deep in the ground.

(d) The DDA has requested the Central Building Research Institute Roorkhee to conduct GEO-Radar survey to determine any cavities, soft strata/tunnel underneath the ground in pocket IV Sector 'C' Vasant Kunj. The results of investigation taken up by CBRI Roorkhee are likely to be available by

the end of December, 91. One receipt of final report of the investigation strengthening of the structures including foundation of the affected blocks shall be undertaken. Effective remedial measures shall also be taken if the investigation reveals similar weak starta/tunnel/cavity in the zone other houses. These strengthening measures shall be taken in consultation with experts in the field & IIT Delhi.

Upgradation of Computer Technology

1059. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any steps for upgrading computer technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any instructions have been issued to the computer professionals in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). The Government are providing research and development for upgrading computer technology at the Centre for Development of Advanced Computer (CDAC) Pune, National Centre for Software Technology (NCST), Bombay and Electronics Research & Development Centre (ER&DC) Trivandrum. These centres are autonomous Societies under the Department of Electronics and are basically engaged in the research and development for upgrading the computer technology in the area of parallel computing, image processing and software development. Government have also launched programmes for the development of Knowledge Based Computer